

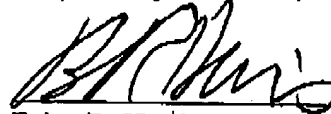
REMARKS

In the final Office Action mailed May 26, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8, 10-14, 17, 19-23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rivette et al. (U.S. Patent 5,991,751) in view of various other references. The Examiner objected to claims 9, 18 and 27 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would otherwise be allowable.

Applicants have amended the independent claims to include the elements of these three dependent claims, and claims 9, 18 and 27 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner enter this amendment and issue a Notice of Allowability. If any questions or issue remain, the Examiner can contact Applicants' attorney, Brian Harris, at his direct dial number of 312-913-3303.

Date: 8/26/04

Respectfully submitted,



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